

FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD  
REPORT TO COUNCIL

Report # 2019-05

SUBJECT: Enhancements to the Sunrise Tract

DATE: 17 September 2019

BACKGROUND: Several large dumpsters are adjacent to the Forest Preserve's Sunrise Tract at the end of Hanover Drive near the Greenbelt Dog Park. The presence of these dumpsters and the remoteness of the location can lead to littering, windblown trash, and the dumping of large items in the Forest Preserve. There is an existing three foot high plastic fence that is broken in some places that extends from the dog park fence to the end of Hanover Drive.

DISCUSSION: The plastic fence was likely effective at preventing windblown trash before it degraded, but was too short to be effective at preventing active littering and dumping. Residents using the dumpsters are unlikely to know that the adjacent forest is city-owned and is part of the Forest Preserve. Replacing the broken plastic fence would prevent windblown trash from entering the Preserve. A taller wooden split-rail fence in front of the plastic fence would enhance the aesthetics of the property and help reduce dumping while also not reducing visibility. An identification sign, similar to the large signs at other Forest Preserve tracts would inform residents that the forest is a part of the Preserve. One of the small regulatory signs that are posted at other Preserve tracts would help mitigate dumping.

RECOMMENDATION: Remove and replace the three-foot plastic fencing and install five-foot high split rail or other open-design wooden fence in front of the new plastic fencing. These fences should begin where dog park's fence ends and extend to the end of Hanover Drive (approximately 150') and then along the end of Hanover Drive behind the guardrail (approx. 75'). Install a "redwood" sign identifying the Sunrise Tract at this location and a Forest Preserve regulatory sign at this location.